

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 1932

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CRIMINAL JUSTICE

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
120TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1435, L.D. 1932, Bill, "An Act to Protect Police Horses"

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and before the summary and inserting in its place the following:

'Sec. 1. 17-A MRSA §752-D is enacted to read:

§752-D. Unlawful interference with law enforcement horses

1. A person is guilty of unlawful interference with a law enforcement horse if the person intentionally or knowingly:

A. Kills, mutilates or permanently disables a horse that the person knows or reasonably should have known is used for law enforcement purposes. Violation of this paragraph is a Class C crime; or

B. Torments, beats, strikes, injures, temporarily disables or otherwise mistreats a horse that the person knows or reasonably should have known is used for law enforcement purposes. Violation of this paragraph is a Class D crime.'

Further amend the bill by inserting at the end before the summary the following:

FISCAL NOTE

This bill may increase prosecutions for Class C crimes. Sentences of more than 9 months imposed for Class C crimes must be served in state correctional institutions. The cost to the

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1435, L.D. 1932

2 State per sentence is \$73,330 based upon an average length of
stay of 2 years and 4 months.

4 This bill may also increase prosecutions for Class D
6 crimes. If a jail sentence is imposed, the additional costs to
the counties are estimated to be \$83.36 per day per prisoner.
8 The number of prosecutions that may result in a jail sentence and
the resulting costs to the county jail system are expected to be
insignificant.

10 The Judicial Department may require additional General Fund
12 appropriations to cover indigent defense costs related to these
new cases. The amounts can not be estimated at this time. The
14 additional workload and administrative costs associated with the
minimal number of new cases filed in the court system can be
16 absorbed within the budgeted resources of the Judicial
Department. The collection of additional fines may also increase
18 General Fund revenue by minor amounts.'

20
22 **SUMMARY**

24 This amendment replaces the bill. The amendment adds to the
Maine Criminal Code the new crime of unlawful interference with
26 horses used for law enforcement purposes. A person is guilty of
the Class C crime of unlawful interference with a law enforcement
28 horse if the person intentionally or knowingly kills, mutilates
or permanently disables a horse that the person knows or
30 reasonably should have known is used for law enforcement
purposes. A person is guilty of the Class D crime of unlawful
32 interference with a law enforcement horse if the person torments,
beats, strikes, injures, temporarily disables or otherwise
34 mistreats a horse that the person knows or reasonably should have
known is used for law enforcement purposes. The amendment also
36 adds a fiscal note to the bill.